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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/561,040

10/16/2006

Atsushi Miyawaki

P28994

3808

7055 7590 12/01/2008
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EXAMINER

KAM, CHIH MIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1656

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/01/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com
pto@gbpatent.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/561,040	Applicant(s) MIYAWAKI ET AL.	
	Examiner CHIH-MIN KAM	Art Unit 1656	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 1656

DETAILED ACTION

1. In the preliminary amendment filed October 16, 2006, claims 3-7, 12-14 and 16-22 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-22 are pending.
2. Claim 4 recites SEQ ID NO:31. However, there is no SEQ ID NO:31 listed in the Sequence Listing. Appropriate correction is required.

Election/Restrictions

3. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claims 1-7 and 14-22, drawn to a fluorescent protein derived from *favia favius* having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or an amino acid sequence comprising a deletion, substitution and/or addition of one or more amino acids in SEQ ID NO:1; a fusion protein comprising the fluorescent protein; a method for analyzing the localization or dynamics of the protein in cells; and a method of producing a fluorescent protein by introducing a substitution at certain positions of SEQ ID NO:1.

Group II, claims 8-13, drawn to a DNA sequence encoding a fluorescent protein derived from *favia favius*, wherein the DNA encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or an amino acid sequence comprising a deletion, substitution and/or addition of one or more amino acids in SEQ ID NO:1; or wherein the DNA has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or of SEQ ID NO:13, 15, 17, 19, or 21 or a nucleotide sequence comprising a deletion,

Art Unit: 1656

substitution and/or addition of one or more nucleotides in SEQ ID NO: 13, 15, 17, 19, or 21;
and a recombinant vector or a transformant comprising the DNA sequence.

The claims of these groups are directed to different inventions, which are not linked to form a single general concept. The claims in the different groups do not have in common the same or corresponding technical features. In particular, each group is directed to distinct chemical entities (i.e., polypeptides and polynucleotides), and/or methods which use different materials and produce different effects. For examples, polypeptides and polynucleotides, which have different structures and utilities, are patentably distinct. Accordingly, the claims are not so linked by a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2 so as to form a single inventive concept and lack of unity is deemed proper.

Insofar as Groups I-II are directed to polypeptides, polynucleotides, methods of producing polypeptides, and methods of use polypeptides, each is defined by a sequence of amino acids and nucleotides that is independent and/or patentably distinct, one from the other.

Should Group I be elected, applicant is required to select “one” specific substitution(s) at specific position(s) of SEQ ID NO:1 from claims 3-7 and 19-22.

Should Group II be elected, applicants is required to select “one” nucleotide sequence from SEQ ID NO: 2, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21 (see claims 10-11). Each nucleic acid or peptide, which contains different nucleotide or amino acid sequence, is patentably distinct. This is not species election.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement is traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Art Unit: 1656

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Min Kam whose telephone number is (571) 272-0948. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jon Weber can be reached at 571-272-0925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Chih-Min Kam/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1656

CMK

November 21, 2008